

## McCall, Brandon

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**From:** CastroMesa, Mara <Mara.CastroMesa@jud.ct.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 04, 2013 4:57 PM  
**To:** jud.testimony@cga.ct.gov  
**Subject:** House Bill 6690

I am writing in support for HB6690 – An Act Concerning Court Procedures and the Protection of Animals put forth by State Rep. Diana Urban. My reason is that we are the caretakers of all animals and must stand up and speak for them since they cannot speak for themselves. Having an animal advocate in court will highlight the injuries suffered by animals at the hands of cruel humans. Abuse of animals is a Red Flag for future violent behavior. We've certainly seen enough violence in our State to last a life time, now is the time to have strong support for animals and severe measures taken against those who abuse them. The gun law has been passed now we need to get this one passed because violence in any form has got to be stopped. Giving an animal abuser accelerated rehab or even a Nolle is a mere slap on the wrist and will DO NOTHING to impress upon these cretins how incredibly disgusting and sick their behavior is. As a mother of two children and a caring, responsible citizen, I recognize the importance of teaching kindness and respect to our nation's children. Many studies have shown that children who lack empathy education may grow to act cruel toward others—be it animals or humans—later in life. Please show some empathy and help make a difference in the lives of countless animals in our beautiful State of CT.

Thank you.

Mara Castro